

Borough of Aldeburgh



Annual Report
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
FOR THE YEAR

1970

→→→

C.H. MILLE,

T.D., M.B., Ch.B., D.O.H.

to the other products,

The Mayor,
Aldermen and Councillors
Borough of Aldeburgh.

Mr. Mayor,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year 1970 prepared on similar lines to those of previous years.

With regard to the general health of the community, 1970 was largely free from sickness. Even measles which could always be relied upon to appear from time to time, was absent during the year.

The main problem in the environmental field is the sewage works. This project has been dogged by misfortune from the beginning and it is only to be hoped that in the near future remedial measurers will be successful.

This is the last report I shall write as Medical Officer of Health of Aldeburgh and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Council and Officials for their kindness and assistance over the years. When I first came to Aldeburgh I thought it grey and uninviting, but soon I grew to appreciate its special and individual atmosphere and I will always remember it with interest and affection.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

C.H. IMRIE

Medical Officer of Health.

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A L D E B U R G H B O R O U G H C O U N C I L

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health

C.H. IMRIE, T.D., M.B.,
Ch.B., D.P.H.

Late Hon. Surgeon to H.M. The Queen.

Public Health Inspector

R.L. MORRIS.



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STATISTICS

The steady but unspectacular increase in the population of Aldeburgh which has been a feature of the past few years was, according to the figures supplied by the Registrar General, maintained in 1970. However the results of the 1971 Census should show definitely if the increase is being maintained.

When standardised for comparison with other areas, the Births and Death rates fall below the corresponding national rate. This was not unexpected as it has been part of the pattern in Aldeburgh for many years.

The absence of Still Births and Infantile deaths during the year is worthy of note.

The causes of death display a pattern which is fairly general throughout the country. Of all deaths over half were due to diseases of the heart and circulatory system and of the remainder the malignant diseases were next in frequency, accounting for about one fifth of the total. There were no deaths associated with pregnancy or child bearing nor were any attributable to accidents or other forms of violence.

Taken all together the statistics for the year can be regarded as satisfactory.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS 1970

Area of Borough	...	...	...	...	2,679 acres
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£130,781
Product of ld rate	...	...	...	...	£510

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Population	3070	3100	3180	3200	3250
Birth rate per 1,000 population	11.4 (35)	12.6 (39)	10.7 (34)	12.2 (39)	9.5 (31)
Still birth rate per 1,000 population	32 (1)	-	-	-	-
Death rate per 1,000 population	21.8 (67)	17.1 (53)	15.4 (49)	15.3 (49)	17.2 (56)
Infantile Death rate per 1,000 population	28.5 (1)	-	-	26 (1)	-

Figures in brackets are the actual number of births and deaths.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1. <u>BIRTHS</u>			
Legitimate	21	9	30
Illegitimate	-	1	1
2. <u>STILL BIRTHS</u>			
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
3. <u>ALL DEATHS</u>	19	37	56
4. <u>INFANTILE DEATHS</u>	-	-	-
5. <u>DEATHS ASSOCIATED WITH CHILDBIRTH</u>	-	-	-

COMPARABILITY (Standard rate = Crude rate x Comparability Factor)

Standard Birth Rate - Aldeburgh per 1,000 population 11.7
England and Wales per 1,000 population.. 16.0

Standard Death Rate - Aldeburgh per 1,000 population 9.6
England and Wales per 1,000 population.. 11.7

CAUSES OF DEATH

Code No:	Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
B6(1)	Late effects of Respiratory T.B.	-	1	1
B19(3)	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	-	1
B19(4)	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	2	-	2
B19(5)	Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	1	-	1
B19(6)	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	1	3	4
B19(7)	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	2	2
B19(10)	Leukaemia	-	1	1
B19(11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	1	3	4
B46(5)	Other Diseases of Nervous System	-	1	1
B27	Hypertensive Disease	2	-	2
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	6	6	12
B29	Other Forms of Heart Disease	1	3	4
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease	1	6	7
B46(6)	Other Disease of Circulatory System	1	2	3
B32	Pneumonia	-	5	5
B33(1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	-	1	1
B46(7)	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	1	1
B46(8)	Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	2	3
B46(11)	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	1	-	1
		19	37	56

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

1970 was notably free from prevalent infections. Details of the seven cases notified are shown below:-

Disease	Age				
	Under 1 year	1 to 5	6 to 15	16 to 45	46 to 65
Measles	2 Females	-	1 Female	-	-
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	1 Male
Salmonella Infection	-	-	1 Female	1 male	1 Female

The three cases of food poisoning which were reported were not severe infections and were due to three different types of the Salmonella species. These were, Salmonella Enteritidis, Salmonella St. Paul and Salmonella Typhi-murium. The first occurred in June and the remainder in September. The results of an intensive search for the origin of the infections was disappointing and there is reason to think that in all cases the patients were infected outside this area. All necessary precautions were taken to prevent spread of infection. The patients all recovered rapidly.

Only one fresh case of Tuberculosis was added to the register during the year. This was a male aged 64 with a pulmonary Tuberculosis infection.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Number on Register at 1.1.70	-	3	-	-	3
Number added	1	-	-	-	1
Number removed	-	-	-	-	-
Remaining at 31.12.70	1	3	-	-	4

IMMUNISATION

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the following particulars about immunisation carried out in the Borough during the year.

	<u>Primary Courses</u>	<u>Boosters and Revaccination</u>
Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis	22	6
Diphtheria/Tetanus	-	22
Tetanus	19	27
Poliomyelitis Salk	-	-
Poliomyelitis Sabin	26	20
Measles	42	-
Smallpox	24	1

HOUSING

The following statistics relate to the year 1970:-

No. of Council Houses completed during the year	...	...	Nil
No. of Council Houses occupied at 31/3/70	...	...	185
No. of Private Houses completed during the year	...	...	9
Total number of units of accommodation within the Borough	...	...	1377
No. of Houses inspected in 1970	...	...	12
No. of unsatisfactory houses	...	...	2
No. rendered fit by informal action	...	...	2
Abatement notices served	...	...	Nil
No. of demolition orders secured	...	...	Nil
No. of Improvement Grants - Discretionary	...	...	6
No. of Improvement Grants - Standard	...	...	6

Aldeburgh has perhaps more than its share of old property which adds to its many attractions. Old property however needs to be kept under review to ensure that it does not fall below acceptable standards. A surprisingly small proportion of these old houses become unfit in the town.

WATER SUPPLY

During 1970 the water supply to the town maintained an adequate standard of purity. A sample submitted to the Public Analyst was reported to be fit for drinking purposes.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER

Sample taken from	...	...	...	...	...	Well - Aldeburgh Water Supply
Date received	...	...	...	...	...	10th April, 1970
Appearance	...	...	...	...	...	Clear
Nature of Deposit	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Colour	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Taste	...	...	...	...	...	Satisfactory
Reaction	...	...	...	...	...	Faintly Alkaline pH 7.4

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Ammoniacal nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	...	Negligible Trace
Albuminoid nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.01
Nitrate nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Nitrite nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Chlorine as Cl	...	...	...	...	...	...	154
Permanganate Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.16
Hardness as CaCO ₃	...						
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	390
Carbonate (temporary)	...	...	...	...	...	...	210
Non-carbonate (permanent)	...	...	...	...	...	...	180
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	...	...	...	...	...	...	210
Free Carbon dioxide	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Total solids (at 130°C)	...	...	...	...	...	...	630
Iron (total)	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.10
Metals in solution	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

OPINION

This water is of very good organic quality and there is no chemical evidence of pollution. The salinity of the present sample is much lower than that of either of the samples taken on the 23rd July, 1968 and the 30th June, 1969. The remainder of the analysis differs little from that of the 1969 sample except that, mainly because of the lower salinity, the total dissolved solids are markedly lower. In our opinion this water is suitable for drinking and general purposes.

for Lincoln Sutton and Wood Limited

(sgd.) E.C. Wood.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

A Dennis Paxit IIC Refuse Collection Vehicle was purchased during the year. The method of refuse disposal by pulverisation was continued as in previous years and has proved adequate.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The disposal plant at the sewage works ran into difficulties during the year, due in part to settlement of the foundations, which disturbed the functions of the plant. The problems arising from this had not been solved by the end of the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

No action was necessary under Section 47 of the above act, which deals with the removal to hospital of aged or disabled persons who are not receiving the necessary care and attention.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT

Premises where treatment were carried out:-

Dwellinghouses - 119
Other Premises - 22

FOOD HYGIENE

The public rightly expects that food which is offered for sale should be safe and free from contamination. This, of course, depends largely on the way the food is kept and handled prior to sale. On the whole the food trade is very much alive to their responsibilities in this connection, but from time to time, through accident or carelessness the commonly acceptable standard is not attained. When this happens a potential danger to health arises and the matter becomes the concern of the local authority.

One such case, which was well publicised in the local press, occurred during the year. This concerned the prosecution by the Council of a retailer and a manufacturer for the sale of a mouldy pork pie. The retailer and manufacturer were both fined on conviction.

FOOD PREMISES

Number of Food Premises by type of business

Grocers	...	...	...	12	Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	13
Dairies	...	...	...	2	Butchers	...	...	...	...	2
Licensed Premises	...	...	17	Fried and Wet Fish	...	...	...	...	2	
Bakers	...	...	...	1	Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	5
Sweets other than grocers			4	Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	3

Number of Food Premises Registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Ice Cream Dealer	...	...	13	Sausage Manufacturers	...	...	2
No. of Inspections of Registered Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
No. found unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
No. rendered satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959
Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act, 1961

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2, 3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	3	7	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	12	-	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	19	-	-	-
Totals	34	7	-	-

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act not including offences relating to Out-Work	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	-	-	-	-	-

